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Up to \$495,000 in Alaska Clean Water Actions grants available
Local organizations sought to help improve State's high priority water bodies

Jan. 4, 2012—Up to \$495,000 is available for clean water projects through the Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) grants, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced today. Each year, DEC along with its ACWA partners, the Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Game, solicits proposals for clean water projects to be funded through ACWA grants. The funds are granted to local communities and citizens groups for projects that monitor and restore Alaska's targeted high priority water bodies.

“ACWA grants have very positive impacts on water quality and aquatic habitat throughout Alaska,” said Michelle Bonnet, DEC's Director of Water. “We encourage local governments, Native groups, and watershed councils to apply for grants that address priority water body needs.”

Waters that are polluted or at risk of pollution get the highest priority for grant awards. Other priorities for this year's grants include helping local governments address the proper operation and maintenance for on-site septic systems, green infrastructure proposals including planning and design work for area-wide programs, and funding for construction of small demonstration projects.

For more information about the ACWA grants priorities and the solicitation process, visit DEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/acwa/onlineACWAapp.htm>

The solicitation opens January 4, 2012. All applications must be submitted on-line by 5:00 p.m., February 21, 2012.